

Press Release

U.S. Government Donates Video Teleconferencing Equipment to Enhance Prosecutorial and Law Enforcement Capacities in Macedonia

Skopje, September 13, 2005 – In an effort to enhance the capacity and assist Macedonian authorities in the investigation and prosecution of trans-border crimes, the U.S. Embassy, represented by the Overseas Prosecutorial Development Assistance and Training Program (OPDAT) of the U.S. Department of Justice and in cooperation with the SECI Regional Center for Combating Trans-border Crime in Bucharest, will donate a video teleconferencing terminal to the Public Prosecutor's Office.

The donated equipment will enable prosecutorial, law enforcement and judicial authorities to obtain information and testimony from witnesses who are not physically present in the country, and whose presence in Macedonia may pose certain risks. However, the person would be presenting his or her statement or testimony while sitting in front of a judge in the person's own country of residence.

The ceremony of handing over the equipment will be held in the office of the Center for Continuous Education of Judges & Prosecutors, Court Palace, on Tuesday, September 13, 2005, at 12:00 noon. Media are invited to attend.

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